



OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Marshal's Office

Interpretation

Interpretation #: INTERP-2021-02	Subject of Interpretation: Emergency Responder Radio Coverage (ERRC)	
Code Reference: IFC-2015-Section 510 and Section 1103.2		
Reviewed By: Prince Morgan	Title: Assistant Fire Marshal	Effective Date: 9/21/21
Approved By: Harold Thompson	Title: Fire Marshal	Revision Date: 6/22/22

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarification and consistency in the requirements for Emergency Responder Radio coverage including the required testing for and permitting of ERRC systems in new and existing construction in accordance with the International Fire Code as adopted.

Description of Code Reference:

2015 IFC Section 510 states that new buildings must have ERRC systems if they do not have a 95% signal strength. The testing procedure are specifically listed in Section 510.5 as well as the maintenance and ongoing compliance in Section 510.6.

2015 IFC Section 1103.2 specifically calls for existing buildings to be compliant within a time frame established by the adopting authority (The Fire Marshal).

Policy based on the Interpretation of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):

The policy of the Fire Marshal's office that to enforce this standard, we will begin with existing high-rise and low-rise buildings which seem to be the most non-compliant as far as having adequate radio coverage. Existing buildings will be notified that they need to have their building tested to see if they need to install an ERRC and the inspector will work with them on an acceptable time frame.

When we are notified by staff from Suppression that they have experienced difficulties getting radio connection they will also be required to submit testing to show compliance or add an ERRC system for that specific building.

Update June 2022

As of July 1, 2022, all newly constructed or remodeled (with a BLDC permit) buildings of Type 1 or Type 2 construction and have any of the following occupancy types will need to have the building tested for radio coverage compliance.

Occupancy types: Apartments, Daycare Centers, Hospitals(including Psychiatric Hospitals), Schools(public or private) Hotel or Motel Facilities, Nursing Homes or Assisted Living Facilities, Restaurants, various Places of Assembly as determined by the *fire code official*,

Hazardous Materials Facilities, Marijuana Facilities (processing or growing), University and Vocational trade Schools, Congregate Care Facilities, Group Homes, Halfway Houses, Residential Board and Care facilities, Social Rehabilitation Facilities, Foster Care Facilities, Detoxification Facilities, Alcohol and Drug Centers, all buildings with 5 or more stories or 75 feet above the lowest level of firefighter access not otherwise listed.